

Research Activity Panel Meeting Summary

Gregor M. Cailliet, MLML, RAP Chair

NOVEMBER 1999 MEETING

Host: Hopkins Marine Station

Date: 5 November, 1999; 09:00 - 12:00

Attendance: 12 RAP members and 5 guests.

INTRODUCTIONS

- Charles Lester (California Coastal Commission) was introduced as a new member representing Les Strnad.

PRESENTATIONS

Institutional Update: Hopkins Marine Station/Stanford (George Somero)

- George reviewed the history of Hopkins Marine Station, the oldest marine laboratory on the west coast (1892) and run by Stanford University.
- He also discussed the new PISCO course on ecological applications of physiology and biomechanics, taught every other summer. The next one will be in 2001.
- They also have added a new ecology faculty (Fiorenza Michaeli) who starts in 2001.
- Their course enrollments have been higher than usual, they have ~ 18 Ph.D. students, another ~ 18 Post-Docs, and a population ~ 200.
- They are trying to solve their housing problem by purchasing some property nearby.

MBAD (Monterey Bay Area Discharges) (Dane Hardin) & CCAMP (Central Coast Ambient Monitoring Program) (Karen Worcester & David Paradies)

- The RAP was introduced to a new regional monitoring program being planned to combine the sampling now required for different dischargers in the Monterey Bay region (MBAD) and an EPA/SWRQCB effort to coordinate all monitoring programs in the central California coastal region. These two projects will dovetail nicely into the Ecosystem Monitoring Program being developed for the MBNMS by Mario Tamburri and others.

Comments on the proposed SAC sound-in-the-sea draft letter (Jack Wickham)

- A draft letter was presented from the CWG to be sent by the SAC to support research on man-caused sound in the MBNMS.
- The RAP did not approve the letter as written, but they did endorse the idea that such research would be appropriate for the MBNMS.

SAC Tidepool Working Group Recommendations (C. Harrold & A. DeVogelaere)

- The RAP discussed the history of intertidal ecological health and the proposal by the SAC that a Tidepool Working Group be formed with members from each working group. Chris Harrold and Andrew DeVogelaere represented the RAP on this committee and read the recommendations from their meeting, which were endorsed by the RAP.

PRBO and the RAP (Andrew DeVogelaere)

- Members of the Point Reyes Bird Observatory have indicated an interest in joining the RAP, especially considering that the work they do involves sanctuary waters and organisms.

- The RAP decided to invite PRBO to become a member.

Searchable Database of Researchers (Andrew DeVogelaere)

- MBCORC had suggested that such a database be developed at their last meeting. It was suggested that the MBNMS site characterization and its associated list of researchers in the area would suffice and simply needed to be updated occasionally.

INFORMATION ITEMS

Undersea Communications Cable Projects (Bill Douros)

- Bill discussed the recent activities with regard to the two proposals (Global Photon and MCI Worldcom) for installing underwater cables within sanctuary waters. The RAP members were encouraged to read and review the EIS/EIR documents prepared by the first of these companies and comment, if desired, by the public comment deadline in December. The second company will not have its EIS/EIR documents completed until sometime next year. The proposals were discussed relative to sanctuary regulations and research objectives.

Sanctuary Currents program for 2000 (Greg Cailliet/Andrew De Vogelaere)

- Greg reviewed recent meetings, and revealed that he and Steve Webster will be "Co-Chairs" and the topic will be long-term marine ecosystem change: natural variations versus human effects. Speakers would suggest at the end of their talks, how would they would improve monitoring and suggest to MBNMS how to pursue their ecosystem monitoring program.

Ricketts Lecture and Science Award Nominations (Andrew DeVogelaere)

- The RAP had voted Francisco Chavez (MBARI) to be the recipient of the 2000 Science Award and Paul Dayton (SIO) as Ricketts memorial speaker.

RAP Schedule of Meetings for 2000 (Andrew DeVogelaere)

The tentative RAP meeting schedule for 2000 was presented:

14 January, 2000	USGS in Santa Cruz
11 February, 2000	CDFG/MPSL
14 April, 2000	CSUMB
12 May, 2000	NURP
14 July, 2000	MBARI
11 August, 2000	Elkhorn Slough National Estuarine Research Reserve
8 September, 2000	Moss Landing Marine Laboratories (+ Annual Barbeque)
10 November, 2000	UCSC